

August 29, 2017

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Good Afternoon! You are receiving this IDEA Fiscal Listserv message because you have been granted access rights to the IDEA grants within WISEgrants. If you do not wish to receive these messages, or, if you were not the original recipient but would like to be on the mailing list, the links to subscribe and unsubscribe are at the bottom of this e-mail.

Upcoming Deadlines

Friday, September 1 – FY 2017-2018 Flow-through and Preschool Budgets Due (*assurances were due July 1, 2017*)

We are asking that LEAs attempt to get their IDEA flow-through and preschool applications for FY 2017-18 submitted by this date. Allocations were loaded very late this year, thus the extension from the normal July 1 deadline to the September 1 deadline. Initial budgets for CEIS and Title I Schoolwide set-asides may be submitted any time during the year. Very helpful technical assistance is available on preparing and submitting IDEA applications through WISEgrants.

Saturday, September 30 – Final FY 2016-2017 claims due

Final flow-through, preschool, CEIS and Title I Schoolwide set-aside claims for obligations made through June 30, 2017, must be submitted and authorized within WISEgrants. There is no need to sign and submit paper claims to DPI, “signatures” are now handled through the web-based authorization process. Staff should check to make sure that final claims submitted by the LEA have been marked as “Final” or “Revised Final.” If a final claim was accidentally submitted as a “Partial” claim, the LEA must submit a \$0 claim with the claim status masked as “Final.” Flow-through and preschool carryover amounts for an LEA cannot be made official until DPI has claims marked as final from the LEA.

Saturday, September 30 - Last date to make an obligation using FY 2015-16 Tydings Amounts

If the LEA has unspent funds remaining from the FY 2015-16 grant year, the funds must be obligated between July 1, 2017, and September 30, 2017, or be forfeited. Once the obligation has been made and the expense liquidated, the LEA should submit a FY 2017-18 claim as soon as possible (to qualify, the claim’s report period ending date cannot be past September 30, 2017). If the obligation is not liquidated by September 30, 2017, the LEA should still submit a FY 2017-18 claim with a report period ending date of September 30, 2017, with amounts listed in the obligation column of the claim. In those “obligation only” cases, the expense must be liquidated and claimed by November 15, 2017, to meet the deadlines for federal drawdown. See the “Tydings Report” on the FY 2017-18 View / Edit Funding page on the application in WISEgrants for information regarding unspent amounts.

Saturday, September 30 – Last date to inform DPI of a return of IDEA funds to meet MOE compliance

If the LEA needs to return FY 2016-17 IDEA funds to meet MOE compliance, DPI must be notified by September 30, 2017. Unfortunately, no exceptions can be made to this deadline. See the section on MOE Compliance Updates below for additional information.

IDEA Flow-through, Preschool and CEIS Carryover

Under IDEA, all unspent flow-through and preschool funds from the prior year are carried over into the new year. There is no 25% cap or waiver requirement.

Final carry over is not loaded by DPI into the WISEgrants software until mid- to late-October. Until then, LEAs can add their own estimated carry over amounts by going to the View / Edit Funding page on the application menu. Once a preliminary carryover amount is saved by the user, it gets added to the allocation amount and is available to budget.

If the LEA set aside funds for CEIS activities in FY 2016-17 but did not expend the entire amount, the LEA can choose to add the unspent earmarked CEIS funds to the FY 2017-18 CEIS set-aside amount. As a reminder, this amount is not in addition to the flow-through carryover amount, but would be a part of it. Final CEIS carryover is loaded by DPI for all LEAs, and unless the LEA was significantly disproportionate in FY 2016-17, has the option of using the funds for CEIS (otherwise the amount is available for regular flow-through expenditures).

FY 2016-2017 IDEA Maintenance of Effort Compliance Updates

The IDEA Maintenance of Effort report is housed in the semi-retired Special Education web portal (not WISEgrants). The URL for the legacy web portal is <https://apps4.dpi.wi.gov/seportal/Pages/SignIn.aspx>. The legacy web portal does not use WAMs ID (like WISEgrants) – it requires a user-created login name and password. If you previously had access to the special education web portal and remember your user name and password, it should still work. However, if you do not remember your user name, password, or have switched districts since last logging into the legacy special education web portal, please contact Marge Schenk at marjorie.schenk@dpi.wi.gov and she can provide you with access.

October 1 Child Count: The MOE Eligibility Report is pointing to the "live" WISEdash October 1 child count. This is the number of students currently reported in the LEA's student information system who had active IEPs on October 1, 2016. The Compliance Report is pointing to the March 11, 2017, WISEdash snapshot that was taken of the LEA's October 1, 2016, child count. In cases where the snapshot count is less than the live count, DPI will need to use the live count when determining the allowable decrease in student exception amounts or the passing of Test 3 or Test 4.

If an LEA is failing all four MOE compliance tests and there are not enough approvable exceptions to cover the failed by amount, the LEA has until **SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**, to return previously claimed IDEA flow-through or preschool funds and recode those Fund 27 expenditures as locally funded (project 011 or project 019). If the LEA has already submitted its 1505 annual reports through the School Financial Services portal, any changes to the LEA's accounts will require the resubmission of the 1505 annual reports before the changes will appear on the MOE compliance report.

To schedule a call to discuss an LEA's MOE compliance status, please contact Marge Schenk at marjorie.schenk@dpi.wi.gov or 608-267-9176.

Updated Technical Assistance Available on the IDEA Equitable Services Requirement and CEIS Set-aside

The IDEA entitlement application within WISEgrants assists LEAs in meeting IDEA's equitable services requirement by collecting enrollment figures from the LEA to determine the required proportionate share along with identifying private school expenditures within the budget. Detailed [technical assistance](#) has been created to help LEAs with this requirement, including a technical assistance document and a recorded webinar. This is the second year this requirement has been tracked within WISEgrants. LEAs must remember to add any unspent equitable services set-aside amounts from FY 2016-17 to the new set-aside amount established for FY 2017-18 on the Plan Reservations page of the flow-through / preschool application.

The majority of Wisconsin LEAs have the option of setting aside 15% of their IDEA allocation to support their multi-level systems of support – outside of special education costs. The [CEIS webpage](#) has recently been updated to include a technical assistance document and recorded webinar. Even if your LEA has set-aside and budgeted for CEIS activities in the past, it is worth reviewing pages 11 through 15 of the technical assistance [document](#) on how to respond to the CEIS narrative questions to ensure a quick turnaround for approval of CEIS set-aside applications.